UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/801,950	03/08/2001	Philip G. Durr	206580	1451

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LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER, LTD
TWO PRUDENTIAL PLAZA, SUITE 4900
180 NORTH STETSON AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60601-6780

EXAMINER
KENDALL, CHUCK O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2192	

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/801,950	DURR ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Chuck Kendall	2192	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>22 February 2005</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 – 13, 15 –20, 24 – 28, and 32 – 40* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1 – 13, 15 –20, 24 – 28, and 32 – 40* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>05/26/2004</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is in response to the application filed 02/22/05.

2.   Amendment to claims 14,21 – 23, and 29 – 31,have been cancelled and claims 1 – 13,15 –20, 24 – 28, and 32 – 40 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

3.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 02/22/05 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 1 – 13,15 –20, 24 – 28, and 32 – 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baisley et al. USPN 6,330,569 B1 (hereinafter "Baisley") in view of Snodgrass et al. USPN 6,185,556 B1.

Regarding claim 1, Baisley discloses a computerized system comprising a program modification database for providing substitute program segments for particular identified programs at program load time, each identified program and each substitute program segment comprising at least one computer-executable instruction, the database comprising;

a set of substitute program segments (Col.3:10 - 15, see Xml and Uml objects);

a set of program entries specifying correction information for such particular identification programs, wherein individual ones of the set of program entries comprise:

a whole name matching at least one existing executable program (9:50 – 60, see matching references, a name of id would have to be used to identify references to match);

and a reference to at least one substitute program segment in the set of Substitute program segments (Col. 3:10 - 15, for matching criteria see difference and target reference); and

an index including a set of identifiers, wherein each identifier corresponds to one of the set of program entries (FIGA, see 38, GHOST OBJECT 11) and wherein each identifier comprises a name portion of the whole name (6:10 – 15, see ghost object ID for name portion). Although, Baisley doesn't explicitly disclose a program matching criteria matching at least one existing executable program, Baisley does disclose performing updates and versioning of programs by executing a repository program utilizing a data warehouse/storage or database as interpreted. However, Snodgrass discloses in an analogous art, matching based on query (criteria) for an executing program (21:41 – 50).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Baisley and Snodgrass because, being able to change or replace programs based on criteria would make editing or updating instructions more efficient.

Regarding claim 2, the program modification database of claim 1, wherein ones of the set of identifiers comprise text strings corresponding, to at least a portion of a program name (Baisley, FIG. 5A, step 55, see attributes).

Regarding claim 3, the program modification database of claim 1, further comprising a preliminary search function for comparing ones of the set of identifiers to corresponding information for a program to Identify potential matching, entries in the set of program entries (Baisley, FIG. 5A, for search see step 53, traversal and step 55 for match (comparing)).

Regarding claim 4, the program modification database of claim 3, wherein the corresponding information comprises at least a portion of a program name (Baisley, FIGA, see 38, GHOST OBJECT ID, also see Col. 4:20 - 25).

Regarding claim 5, the program modification database of claim 1, wherein the set of substitute program segments includes a program Interface (Baisley, Col. 5: 32 - 34).

Regarding claim 6, the program modification database of claim 1, wherein individual ones of the set of program criteria include a program name (Baisley, FIGA, see 3 8, GHOST OBJECT ID, also see Col. 4:20 - 25 for object name).

Regarding claim 7, the program modification database of claim 6, wherein the programming matching criteria includes at least one File metadata-based criterion (Baisley, Col.2: 45).

Regarding claim 8, the program modification database of claim 1, wherein the set of potential set of criterion types for specifying a particular program matching criteria is extensible (Baisley, Col. 1: 57 - 60, see Extensible Markup Language, XML).

Regarding claim 9, the program modification database of claim 8 wherein programming matching criterion types are specified by XML tags (Baisley, Col. 1: 57 - 60).

Regarding claim 10, the program modification database of claim 1, further comprising a library section one or more program files, including one or more substitute program segments, to be loaded into a process space by a program loader when the operating system loads the computer program (Baisley, FIG. 2, for Library section, see 21, for REPOSITORY).

Regarding claim 11, the program modification database of claim 1, further comprising one or more explicit exclude instructions having a reference to a calling module for which program Substitution is not implemented. (Baisley, Col: 7: 15 - 20, for exclude see "reserved").

Regarding claim 12, the program modification database of claim 1, further comprising one or more explicit include instructions having a reference to a calling module for which a more general explicit exclude instruction is overridden thereby enabling program segment Substitution for the particular calling module (Baisley, Col. 7: 23 - 26, for explicit include, see "if not already reserved").

Regarding claim 13, the program modification on database of claim 1, further comprising a search function for matching criteria of the individual ones of the set of program entries to a program to identify a match (Baisley, FIG. 5A, steps 52 - 55, see match).

Regarding claim 15, the program modification database of claim 1, wherein the set of substitute program segments is stored in a read-only memory (Baisley, Col. 4: 25 - 35, see computers memory, object and transiently).

Regarding claim 16 the program modification database of claim 1, wherein the set of program entries is stored in a read-only memory (Baisley, Col. 4: 25 - 35, see computers memory, object and transiently).

Regarding claim 17, the program modification database of claim 1, wherein the set of substitute program segments include substitute executable program interfaces (Baisley, FIG. 2, see 20).

Regarding claim 18, the program modification database of claim 1, wherein the set of substitute program segments include program patches (Baisley, Col. 3: 15 - 20, for patch see updated).

Regarding claim 19, the program modification database of claim 1, wherein the set of substitute program segments are stored in a common memory location referenced by differing ones of the set of program entries (Baisley, FIG. 1, see 13).

Regarding claim 20, Baisley discloses a method for providing modification segments for a particular executable program at load time in a computer system

including a program modification database having a set of program entries and wherein
each program entry includes a program matching criteria and a reference to at least one
substitute program segment, and the method comprising the steps of:

multi-tiered matching identification information for the particular program to a
program matching criteria for an entry within the set of program entries, (FIG. 5A, for
matching see 55) the multi-tiered matching step comprising the sub-steps of

first executing a first search on a name or portion of a whole name of an index
having identifying information for each one of the set of program entries to identify a first
set of potential matching entries(FIG. 5A; for search see traversal and retrieve and
match 51 - 55); and

second executing, a second search on at least a portion of the first set of
potential matching entries to identify a program entry matching the particular program
based upon the program matching criteria for the program entry (Baisley, FIG. 5C, step
67, for second search);

accessing within the entry, in response to the matching step, a sub-field
identifying substitute program segments for the particular program (FIG. 5A, see
attributes for sub-field); and

memory location references for reading the identified Substitute program
segments based upon the accessing step (FIG. 5A, see 59 for references).

Baisley doesn't explicitly disclose a second set of potential matching entries
matching and a third search on at least a portion of the second set of potential matching
entries to identify a program entry matching the particular program based upon the
program matching criteria for the program entry. However, Snodgrass discloses in an
analogous art, matching based on query (criteria) for an executing program as well as
performing one or more queries for the first two and optionally third criteria's (21:43 –
49).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time
the invention was made to combine Baisley and Snodgrass because, building further
searches or queries when executed " eliminate duplicates" (Snodgrass, 21:33 – 36).

Regarding claim 24, the method of claim 20, wherein the index is stored as a packed data structure (Baisley, Col. 5:65).

Regarding claim 25, the method of claim 20, wherein the program matching criteria includes comparing file metadata (Baisley, Col.2: 45).

Regarding claim 26, the method of claim 20, wherein types of matching information for the program matching criteria are designated by XML tags (Baisley, Col. 1: 57 - 60, XML).

Regarding claim 27, the method of claim 20, wherein the set of potential types of matching information for the program matching criteria is extensible (Baisley, Col. 1: 57 - 60, See Extensible Markup Language).

Regarding claim 28, the computer readable medium version of claim 20, see rationale as previously discussed above.

Regarding claim 32, the computer readable medium version of claim 24, see rationale previously discussed above.

Regarding claim 33, the computer readable medium version of claim 25, see rational previously discussed above.

Regarding claim 34, the computer readable medium version of claim 26, see rational previously discussed above.

Regarding claim 35, the computer readable medium version of claim 27, see rationale previously discussed above.

Regarding claim 36, the apparatus version of claim 1, see rationale as previously discussed above.

Regarding claim 37, the apparatus version of claim 20, see rationale as previously discussed above.

Regarding claim 38, the program modification versions claim 20, see rationale as previously discussed above.

Regarding claim 39, the method of claim 20 wherein the name portion of the index having the identifying information comprises a limited number of characters corresponding to names programs for which entries are present in the program modification database (Baisley, 6:10 – 15, see ghost object ID for name portion).

Regarding claim 40, the computer-readable medium of claim 28 wherein the name portion of the index having the identifying information comprises a limited number of characters corresponding to names of programs for which entries are present in the program modification database (Baisley, 6:10 – 15, see ghost object ID for name portion).

Response to Arguments

5.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 – 13,15 –20, 24 – 28, and 32 – 40 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Correspondence Information

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chuck Kendall whose telephone number is 571-272-3698. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:00 am - 6:30pm.
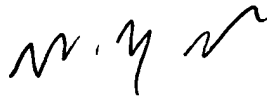
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Dam can be reached on 571-272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CK.

WEI Y. ZHEN
PRIMARY EXA